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COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SUITE 2321 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

October 18, 1967

CHARLES F. DUCANDER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
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Honorable Richard Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Helms:

The Committee on Science and Astronautics has had the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress prepare a 10-year review of the Soviet space program in comparison with that of the United States, using unclassified data.

It is my understanding that during the process of preparation, the author, Dr. Charles S. Sheldon II, checked informally with individuals in several agencies for added insurance that the report would not violate security rules. He did not ask for a formal agency clearance of the report itself, believing this to be inappropriate under the circumstances.

In the case of your agency, such informal review was conducted by David Brandwein as a knowledgeable individual. I have been assured the outcome of such discussions resulted in a product that was in keeping with the national interest, regardless of whether any policy conclusions might be favored. The latter was not raised as an issue.

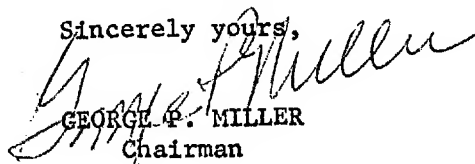
The subject of the Soviet space program is one concerning which the members of this Committee are constantly seeking information; yet nowhere have we been able heretofore to find a concise, accurate source based entirely on unclassified data. Recognizing however, that the subject might occasionally touch sensitive areas, I would appreciate assurance that you have no objection to our publication of this study insofar as national interests or security may be concerned. If you do have objections, we would appreciate it if you could specify and provide reasons for them. This request, of course, does not reflect either on the Legislative Reference Service or any member of your staff.

I regret the necessity of asking for a prompt response. If the report is to be of optimum value to us, it must be ready for

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distribution not later than the first week in November. In view of the time required for printing, this leaves little leeway. Your assistance will be much appreciated. If we do not hear from you by November 1 we will assume that there is no objection to the report.

Sincerely yours,


GEORGE P. MILLER
Chairman

Enclosure

MISSING PAGE

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

enclosure

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<p>Remarks: The attached letter requests the Director to assure Chairman Miller that there is no objection to publication of Sheldon's study "insofar as national interests or security may be concerned." We have discussed this with the Staff Director of Miller's Committee and they will accept an informal response that there are no security objections. Dave Brandwien advises us that there is no classified information in the study. If you approve, we will forward on to Carl Duckett for a final check and then handle as indicated above.</p> <p>OLC N</p> <p>John S. Warner</p>											
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